MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know the number of applications sanctioned?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASVAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): 846.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know the number pending disposal?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASVAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): 533.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know the reasons for the pendency of such a large number of applications in the Bank?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASVAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): It is difficult to find out the reason in each case. The applications are pending in various offices such as those of the Tahsildar, the Assistant Peishkar, the Division Peishkars, the Sub-Registrar, the Legal Adviser and the Bank itself. We have to collect all the applications if the reason is to be found out. That is why the answer has been given that the time and labour involved in collecting the information required will not be commensurate with the advantages to be gained thereby.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government see that hereafter the applications are disposed of as early as possible?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASVAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Certainly.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kallulam 1*): What is the average length of time taken for the disposal of an application?

RAO BAHADUR A. RENGASVAMI AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I have not got the information.

Power-House at Pallivasal.

73. ***MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI** (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the present Power-House at Pallivasal has been inspected by any Engineer from outside the State;

(*b*) if so, who were they and what necessitated their inspection; and

(*c*) whether they have submitted any report on their inspection?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Signor Marcello and Major Howard. Signor Marcello's visit was to advise Government on the designs of the Head Works of the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Project. Major Howard's visit was to advise Government on certain technical aspects of the works connected with the Project.

(*c*) Yes.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): May I know whether any other Engineer was consulted when the headworks were started?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): No, Sir.

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MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): May I know how the work was begun without consulting any expert Engineer on the subject?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): No *other* expert Engineer was consulted.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): What was the nature of the advice sought for by Government from these Engineers?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): There were certain special problems connected with this work. One, for example, was whether there was necessity for a decantation chamber to deal with the accumulation of silt.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): May I know whether the advice given by Major Howard was on the same subject?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Major Howard was consulted in regard to the scheme generally and not on any particular aspect of it.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): May I know whether the reports submitted by them contained the advice sought for by Government?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Certainly.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): May I know whether these reports will be published?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): They are treated as confidential.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): May I know whether Major Howard recommended the transfer of the civil section of the work?

PRESIDENT: The official member has already answered that the report is confidential. To take it bit by bit and ask whether the civil section was transferred as a result of the advice etc., would be really to destroy the confidential character of the information.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know whether, according to Major Howard's report, there was any necessity for the alteration of the plant?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): The contents of the report are confidential.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether the Engineers were given any remuneration?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): The Italian Engineer was given Rs. 12,500; and Major Howard was given a bonus of Rs. 2,000; and the Madras Government were given his pay and allowances for the week he spent in Travancore.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether it was because Government thought that one of them was not competent enough to deal with the question that they sought the opinion of both?

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MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): As I said, Sir, the Italian Engineer was consulted in regard to a particular problem, while Major Howard was called in to report about certain technical aspects of the scheme generally.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): Did the Government think that one of them was not competent to deal with both the questions?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): After consulting the Italian Engineer, Government consulted Major Howard also.

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (*Kottayam I*): May I know whether it was as a result of this advice that they thought that the work will be finished this year?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): I do not know whether the completion of the work has much to do with the advice tendered by them.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): May I know how long it will take to complete the scheme?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): It will be completed in 8 to 10 months if all goes well.

Expenditure on the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Scheme.

74. ✻ **MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI** (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): With reference to the answer to question No. 240 answered at the last session (on 7th August 1936), will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the causes of the slip and the nature of the protective work carried on;

(*b*) whether the investigation referred to therein is over;

(*c*) whether the estimate referred to therein has been prepared; and

(*d*) if so, what is the additional expenditure that has been incurred?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) The causes of the slip are still under investigation. The necessary protective works will be carried out as soon as the investigation is completed.

(*b*) to (*d*) In view of the answer to part (*a*) these questions do not arise.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): May I know whether the slip has affected the Power House?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): The slip is two hundred feet away from the Power House.

MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): May I know how long the investigation of the causes of the slip has been going on?

MR. K. MADHAVA KURUP (*Ag. Secretary to Governmen.*): For about three or four months now.

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